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this hour
You use your
power,
The World
must follow
you

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET NORTH

Stand all as
one
Till right
is done!
Believe and
dare and do!

VOL. 1, NO. 19

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1941

FIVE CENTS

FBI Story of Union Defense Guard Proved False

Miners Strike Holds Despite FDR Threats

Roosevelt Deliberately Unleashes Lynch Spirit Campaign Against Striking Miners and CIO; But Undaunted Labor Stands Firm Behind UMW While Strikers Tie Up Mines

Despite the extensive anti-labor propaganda campaign unleashed by the Steel Trust, President Roosevelt and the daily press, the scheduled strike of the 53,000 miners in the captive mines owned by the steel corporations was launched Monday morning, with complete effectiveness.

The immediate issue in the strike is the miners' demand for a union shop, already won by 400,000 commercial miners, but denied the 53,000 captive miners.

The broader and really fundamental issue in the strike, however, is the very right of labor to exercise its economic power, to strike. It is this fundamental issue, forced upon the United Mine Workers by the bosses and Roosevelt, that has won for the miners the unanimous support of the CIO convention and the nation's labor movement.

In the face of news that Roosevelt, commander-in-chief of the United States Army, has mobilized 50,000 troops "prepared down to the last detail" to break the strike, miners marched out as one man on Monday.

Sympathy Strikes Grow

As anti-labor pressure on the strikers mounted, their brothers in the nation's commercial mines rallied to their support by walking out in sympathy strike. By

Text of CIO Resolution Backing Miners to the End

One of the first acts of the five hundred delegates to the national CIO convention in Detroit was to approve the resolution adopted unanimously by the CIO national executive board to "approve and pledge our unqualified support to the United Mine Workers of America in its logical effort to stabilize the mining industry on the basis of a union shop, uniform agreement, covering commercial and captive mines . . ."

Excerpts from the resolution backing the miners in their fight against the Steel Trust follow:

"WHEREAS, 1. the United Mine Workers of America are engaged in a struggle with the captive mine owners composed principally of the large steel units in an effort to secure the application of a uniform union shop agreement; and

"2. Ninety-five per cent of the industry, including many captive mine operators, have accepted, signed and are operating under the terms of this standard agreement . . . and

"3. Over 95 per cent of the employees of these recalcitrant steel units in the coal industry are members of the United Mine Workers of America; and

"4. The UMW in convention assembled has instructed its officers to have the same uniform agreement applied to the entire industry; and

"5. The attitude of these large steel units, where profits under the defense program are enormous, can be properly classified as un-American and not conducive to the best interests of the defense program; and

"6. We believe that the cause of the UMW is just, fair and reasonable and the officers and members of this union are to be commended highly for their example of fortitude and fidelity to the cause of labor; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED: By the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations that we approve and pledge our unqualified support to the UMW in its logical effort to stabilize the mining industry on the basis of a union shop. . ."

Thursday night over 100,000 miners were already out in sympathy with the 53,000 captive miners, and it is believed that by the week's end the 400,000 commercial

miners of the nation will be on strike to support the miners' demand for a union shop in the mines owned by the steel corporations.

Anti-labor violence against the strikers flamed into the open on the second day of the strike when two pickets were shot and wounded by company gunmen at Gary, West Virginia. Wednesday three more strikers were shot in Fayette county, Pennsylvania.

Brass Hats Eager to Break Strike

Thursday the Associated Press reported that "Army and navy officials are in favor of using troops immediately, but caution is being urged by some who believe employment of the army would only serve to unify the miners."

When informed of the President's plans to use the army as a strike-breaking instrument, John L. Lewis calmly replied that "if the soldiers come, the mine workers will remain peacefully in their homes, conscious of the fact that bayonets in coal mines will not produce coal."

CIO Convention for Strike
CIO President Philip Murray, speaking at the CIO national convention on the same subject, stated that "Naturally, the CIO is bound to make objection to the use of the army to shackle or force labor."

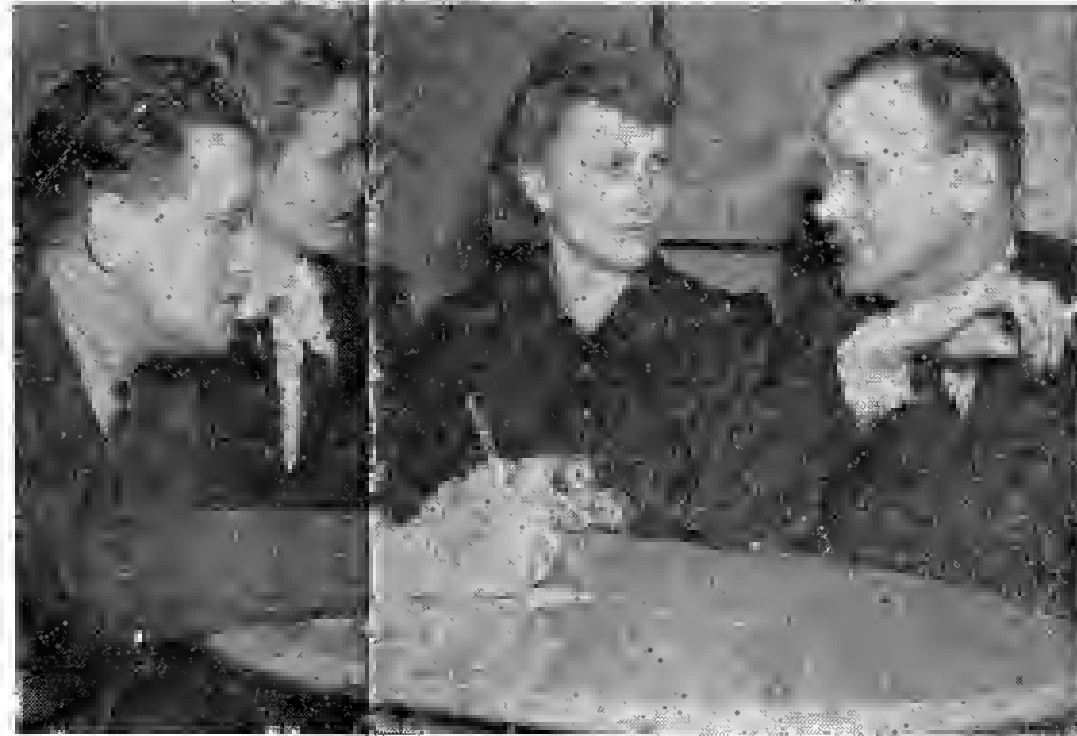
The strike of the captive mines has received the unanimous approval of the CIO executive committee and of the fourth convention of the CIO, meeting in Detroit. The position of the United Mine Workers is so obviously just that even the followers of Sidney Hillman and the Stalinists were forced to go along in approving the strike.

Only voice raised against the strike was that of Michael Quill, who suggested that six CIO vice-presidents be sent by the convention to Washington to aid Roosevelt in ending the strike. Quill's motion was stepped on hard by CIO President Murray, who properly characterized the motion as designed to indicate that the convention was not united in support of the union-shop demand.

Lewis Report Is Cheered
The report of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, received a roar of cheers from the 200 members of the union Policy Committee as they unanimously approved the strike.

"... Obviously the steel companies believed that all they had to do was to maintain (Continued on page 4)

They're Still In the Fight



Organizer Walter Hagstrom and Vice-President George Froisig of Local 544-CIO are seen discussing plans for the defense with Rose Seiler and Dorothy Schultz, wife of 544 Organizer Henry Schultz. These four and Nick Wagner were released for lack of evidence and are now devoting themselves to the fight to free the other 23 defendants in the "sedition" trial. They fear that release of the five only means clearing the decks to railroad to jail the 23. But even if the 23 are found guilty, these and other union brothers will fight the case all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court.

IBT Area Committee Yields to NDMB

Packed With Incompetent Tobin Agents, Area Committee Surrenders Strike Weapon and Leans on Mediation Board; CIO Industrial Unionism Is Needed by Over-Road Drivers

By FARRELL DOBBS

The Tobin-dominated 11-State Area Committee abdicated last Saturday all rights to leadership of the midwest over-the-road truck drivers. After having announced a "final" offer to the employers on Wednesday with a call for strike action if an agreement was not signed by November 15 (the date the existing contract expired), the committee three days later surrendered the controversy to government arbitration.

Joseph L. Keenan, OPM representative, entered the negotiations after the Tobin ultimatum and emerged a few hours later to announce that the union committee and the bosses had agreed to refer all unsettled issues of wages and working conditions to the National Defense Mediation Board AND TO ABIDE BY THE BOARD'S DECISION. Keenan said the drivers would continue work.

The dispute involves approximately 250,000 men employed by 800 truck operators. The main demands of the union committee called for an increase in mileage rates to 5 cents per mile and a raise in the pickup and delivery rate to \$1 per hour. The old scales were 3 cents per mile and 80 cents per hour respectively.

The employers refused to grant any increase whatever on the mileage rate and offered an increase of only 2 1/2 cents per hour on the pickup and delivery scale.

The 11-State area includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Nebraska.

The official statement of the Tobin committee piously announced that it agreed to hold off any work stoppage "at the request of government officials and in the spirit of aiding national defense." It added also that the union committee had been seeking federal intervention.

Bosses on Offensive

The chairman of the employers area committee, J. L. Keeshin, was not so timid as the Tobin agents. "Let them strike," Keeshin told the newspaper reporters, "so that strikes may be ended forever."

This employer spokesman was not concerned with the "spirit of aiding national defense." He was thinking about North American Aircraft, Bendix, and the army spies being sent into the captive coal mine areas; he was thinking about getting Roosevelt to call out the army against the truck drivers "so that strikes may be ended forever." Keeshin was contemptuous of the timid union leadership which was begging him for concessions in order to save its face before the rank and file.

Drivers Press Tobin

The Tobin committee finds itself on the horns of a dilemma. The truck drivers are pressing hard for improvements in wages and working conditions. Sharply rising prices and heavy taxation are cutting deeply into the standard of living of the workers. It is imperative that they receive wage in-

Dobbs Led Road Drivers to Unions

EDITOR'S NOTE: No man in the country is better qualified to write on the problems of the over-road drivers than Farrell Dobbs. He was the leader of the North Central Drivers Council founded in 1937 to organize the over-road drivers, then almost entirely unorganized. He became the Secretary of the 11-state Area Committee of truck drivers unions which organized some 200,000 over-road drivers in the North Central Area. He successfully negotiated their first area-wide contract in 1938. His leading role among the over-road drivers was so unquestionable that Daniel J. Tobin had to appoint him as International Organizer in charge of this work, and Dobbs successfully negotiated the second area-wide contract on November 15, 1939—the contract which has just expired. Dobbs resigned that office in 1940, when Tobin tried to get him to sell out the Kansas City cab drivers. Now, as the story above tells, Tobin's nincompoops have gone far toward undermining the conditions which Dobbs and Local 544 won for the over-road drivers.

Use of Guard In '29 Shown By Defense

Defense Guard Existed 12 Years Ago To Save Meetings From Stalin Thugs; Three Union Men Freed By Defense Motion for Dismissal

The prosecution's efforts to paint Local 544's Union Defense Guard as a revolutionary conspiracy instigated by Leon Trotsky in 1938 to overthrow the government by force, exploded into a dozen pieces Wednesday under the testimony of the first defense witness, James P. Cannon.

Cannon, one of the defendants, and a participant in the militant labor movement for thirty years, told the court that he had known of labor defense guards since 1911.

Then, while the prosecutors glumly watched, he read from a 1929 file of THE MILITANT, Trotskyist paper edited by him, a dozen news-stories reporting how workers' defense guards were formed in Minneapolis and in several Eastern cities twelve years ago, to defend workers' meetings against the attack of Stalinist hoodlums sent by the Communist Party to break up the meetings.

Relating how the depression of 1927-28 had caused a sharp increase in the activity of such fascist organizations as the Silver Shirts, the Birm, and the Christian Front, Mr. Cannon told how workers' groups in many parts of the country had found it necessary to form defense guards to defend their meetings against the fascists. He told how several New York unions, including a local of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, which passed a resolution for guards, had publicly discussed the need for union defense guards.

Unions Need Defense Guards

With the advent of the European war and the war boom, fascist activity subsided, and with it labor's immediate need to defend itself against the anti-labor vigilantes, Cannon explained.

While effectively exposing the prosecution's attempt to portray 544's Union Defense Guard as anything other than the guard actually was, Cannon contended that the American labor movement, to avoid the fate of the unions in Italy and Germany, will find it necessary to form union defense guards to defend labor's rights against the coming fascist movement in America.

The 51-year-old national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party testified Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday. Under examination and cross-examination, he frankly explained the basic ideas of the Marxist movement which he has led for many years.

Three Union Leaders Freed

On motion by defense counsel, the court Tuesday dropped charges against five of the 28 defendants. Those freed were George Froisig, Walter Hagstrom, Nick Wagner, Dorothy Schultz and Rose Seiler.

Brother Froisig, vice-president of Local 544-CIO, has served the Minneapolis drivers' union as officer for twenty years. Wagner is trustee of 544-CIO, and Hagstrom is a 544-CIO organizer.

The released defendants immediately announced they would throw themselves into the fight to defend their fellow workers still on trial.

Among defendants to follow Cannon on the witness stand are V. R. Dunne, Farrell Dobbs, and Carl Skoglund, founders of the Minneapolis drivers' movement and leaders of the 1934 drivers' strike that made Minneapolis a union town.

The government closed its case Monday without proving a single one of the charges made by Attorney General Biddle and his assistant, Mr. Schweinhaut, prior to the start of the trial. The prosecution bases its case upon the testimony of two dozen Tobin-paid stoopigeons; most of the government witnesses perjured themselves, the defense hopes to show. (See other stories, pages 2 and 3)

Biddle Said He'd Prove Local 544 Armed Workers!

Now that the prosecution has completed presentation of its "case" against Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party, let us recall what U. S. Attorney-General Biddle promised to prove:

In answer to a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union, protesting against the trial as a prosecution of work-class opinions, Biddle wrote on Sept. 4 that the Union Defense Guard was an "overt act," was indeed, "arming workers" to carry out the purpose to which the utterances are addressed, and therefore "is clearly sufficient to remove the case from one involving expression of opinion."

BUT WHAT DID THE PROSECUTION OO?

(1) Anderson, in his opening statement, said no proof of an overt act was necessary—i.e., the opinions of the defendants were enough;

(2) The prosecution "proved" what the defense had stated in advance, that the sole "arms" of the Union Defense Guard consisted of two target pistols and two target rifles—the prosecution didn't even try to claim anything more;

(3) Assistant Attorney-General Schweinhaut, in opposing defense motion to dismiss the case, made no bones about it, he was prosecuting the defendants' opinions and nothing else;

(4) Judge Joyce, denying the defense motion, justified that solely by the "defendants' seditious writings."

In short, Biddle's bunk about "arming workers" was just a smokescreen to confuse labor and liberals, while his lieutenants were getting this frameup ready.

Ten More Join Defense Committee

Showing their active support of the defense of the Minneapolis defendants in the Tobin-inspired "sedition" trial, ten more well-known labor leaders and liberals last week joined the national committee of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. The national committee now numbers 48 men and women.

Latest to join the committee are:

Mark Starr, education director, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL; Margaret Marshall, editor of THE NATION;

Clement Greenberg, editor of PARTISAN REVIEW; John Chamberlain, author, editor of FORTUNE;

Franz Hoellering, author; Louis Rath, professor, Ohio State University;

Sarah T. Colvin, former member, Minnesota State Board of Education;

Zara duPont, liberal member of the duPont family;

Gorham Munson, author; Mary W. Hillier, secretary, Keep America Out of War Committee.

Civil Rights Defense Meeting

Farrell Dobbs Reports on Trial

Pioneer Hall Meeting Of Union Men and Women Gets First-Hand Account Of What's Going On In Court

An enthusiastic audience of union men and women heard Farrell Dobbs, former general organizer for the IFT and now one of the defendants in the "sedition" trial, give a graphic picture of the events leading up to the trial, Monday night. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Civil Rights Defense Committee in the Pioneer Hall at the Lumber Exchange.

Gilbert Carlson, one of the defense counsel, and Carlos Hudson, acting editor of the Industrial Organizer, also spoke. Arthur Sternberg, treasurer of the Workers Defense League, was chairman.

Gilbert Carlson, who has long been attorney for 544-CIO, told of the farcical hearings before State Labor Conciliator Blair on the union's petition for an election after the union had voted to go into the CIO in June. Carlson cited example after example of bias on the part of Blair who arbitrarily ruled that the AFL-544 should have complete jurisdiction over all the truck drivers in Minneapolis.

Carlos Hudson sketched briefly the history of the Industrial Organizer since its birth as a small tabloid during the 1934 strike days to its present status as one of the best labor papers published in this country. He asked the audience to take subscriptions to the paper in order that they might keep up with the events of the trial, especially now that the prosecution has rested its case.

"Now that the prosecution has finished its case," he said, "the newspapers will bury the case as deep as possible. Already several of the out of town newspapers have withdrawn their men from the courtroom. The only way you can get the news of the trial, the real news, is by reading your own newspaper, The Industrial Organizer."

Membership Rejected Quislings

Farrell Dobbs traced the history of the prosecution of the leaders of 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party. After a small opposition group within 544 had failed to unseat the leadership in a democratic election, the "Committee of 100" was organized. This group sought the assistance of the FBI in its efforts to take over the union early last spring. This was aimed at the cross examination of a government wit-

Drivers in New Orleans Join CIO

An admission by Tobin's agent that the CIO has organized the truck drivers of New Orleans, and that this is only a first step by the CIO in organizing drivers throughout the Gulf Coast area, was made last week in an area meeting of the Tobin representatives held in New Orleans.

The conference was reported in the AFL Mobile Labor Journal.

The Tobin outfit will make a desperate effort to force the drivers back into the AFL, according to the story. A war chest of more than \$300,000 will be raised to "eliminate the damned CIO," the report said. Probably Tobin will follow the pattern of his activities in Minneapolis and Iowa, and send in an army of gangsters, gunmen and henchmen to attack union drivers whose crime, in Tobin's eyes, is that they are smart enough to see through his honey-boss-minded type of ineffective craft unionism.

The Mobile AFL sheet said that "The CIO had succeeded in obtaining control of cartage to the docks, from the freight terminals."

Local unions and were responsible to their membership. Today the committee is composed mainly of Tobin agents who do not allow the men to have one thing to say about what shall or shall not be included in the contract and who are responsible to no one except Tobin.

This Tobin Committee has just handed the fate of 250,000 over-the-road drivers into the hands of the National Defense Mediation Board.

He said that the only road for the truck drivers of the nation was into the militant, democratic CIO.

Dobbs ended his speech by promising for the leaders of 544-CIO who are now on trial in federal court that "no matter what the odds, no matter what is thrown at them, these men will be in there pitching to the very end, and nobody can intimidate them."

Farrell Dobbs



Farrell Dobbs, well known trade unionist, is one of the twenty-three defendants in the "sedition" trial in federal court. He is probably best known throughout the nation for his work in organizing more than 250,000 over-the-road drivers. See story, page 1.

544-CIO Housed in Fine New Quarters

Last August, at the monthly membership meeting of Local 544-CIO, Brother V. R. Dunne promised the one thousand drivers present that by late Autumn the union would be housed in a fine new quarters, superior to any headquarters it had yet known.

Monday morning that promise will be realized. On that day Local 544-CIO will be installed in its new quarters on the main floor of the building at 9th street and 12th avenue south, the building formerly known as the "Southern Neighborhood House."

Local 544-CIO's new hall is one of the finest Minneapolis drivers have yet known.

The first floor of the two-story building contains four large offices, a meeting hall, a diningroom, kitchen, and washrooms.

The entire second floor is devoted to a large auditorium with balcony, seating eight hundred comfortably, a stage, washrooms and showers.

The offices of Local 544-CIO are on the main floor. Meeting halls will be available to the union. The union executive board is considering the outright purchase of the building, which is so well equipped to serve as a union headquarters.

Not the least of its many advantages is the ample parking space available.

Members are warmly invited to drop in on the new union home and inspect its facilities.

Communist Party Head Forbids Aid To Local 544-CIO

Stalin's Agent Comes to Minneapolis To Order His Crew Not To Support Local 544-CIO Or Defendants In Trial; He Also Attacks CIO Miners For Using Strike Weapon

Robert Minor, acting National Secretary of the Communist Party, speaking to a mass meeting in Eagles Hall, Sunday, November 16, made clear that members and sympathizers of the Communist Party were not to give any support to Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party in the federal "sedition" trial now taking place here.

Minor did not dare openly to support the prosecution against the 28, nor in fact, did he even mention the trial directly.

Nevertheless, it was clear that his prepared address was a warning to the local Stalinists in the trade unions to withstand the pressure from the union ranks to support the defendants.

CP Opposed to Strikes

Minor rebuked the Minneapolis trade unions for "not doing one-tenth of what they can do" for war production. He proclaimed to the local C.P. members that strikes were out and, as he quoted from William Green, AFL President, the workers "should stay on the job, keep producing." This is not the time, said Minor, for the workers to put forward their grievances, "even justified grievances."

Minor illustrated exactly what the jingo strike-breaking policy of the Communist Party is when he indicated the party's opposition to the coal miners' strike. He admitted that the United Mine Workers were entirely justified in their demands and that President Murray and Thomas Kennedy of the CIO were correct in resigning from the strike-breaking National Defense Mediation Board after the Board supported the Steel Trust's opposition to the closed shop.

Talks Like Bosses

In spite of this, Minor brazenly declared, "The union must not be provoked to stop defense production." Like any representative of the National Manufacturers Association, Minor attacked the right of the workers to strike.

Although Minor's announced topic was "The 24th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution by name even once."

Instead, he utilized the occasion

to call for the immediate formation of a "national front of all patriotic Americans in support of Administration policy," which would "include the foremost business, the biggest of business interests, including the wealthy classes."

This united front of the workers and bosses would have two tasks: the rallying of the whole nation to participate in the war and the crushing of the "Fifth Columnists" at home.

By "Fifth Columnists," Minor meant all those in the labor movement who would insist on labor's right to organize and to strike. First in the rank of this kind of "Fifth Columnists," said Minor, were the Trotskyists in the Socialist Workers Party.

All for Boss War

In addition to Roosevelt and Green, Minor also quoted approvingly from Wendell Willkie, former Republican candidate for President and Wall Street spokesman. The Communist Party leader agreed with Willkie that the United States should throw all of its resources into the war. Let any one should think that the Communist Party was supporting the war only because the USSR had been attacked, Minor hastened to correct the impression by giving his approval to Willkie's statement that "The United States is not in this war for the sake of Russia."

Every constitution and every law naturally expires at the end of the natural life. If it be enforced longer, it is an act of force, and not of right.—Thomas Jefferson.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. When they shall grow weary of existing government they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.—Abraham Lincoln.

If there be any among us who wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.—Thomas Jefferson.

ON NATIONAL UNITY. Necessity is the argument of tyrants, and the creed of slaves.—William Pitt.

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Labor Spurns Mediation Board

CIO unions throughout the nation are turning their backs on the boss-minded National Defense Mediation Board, as a result of the Board's anti-labor stand in the captive mine strike.

Last week the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers withdrew from further participation in NDMB hearings intended to discuss a dispute affecting 5,800 workers at the Brooklyn plant of the Robins Drydock company. Philip Van Gelder, secretary-treasurer of the union, said the union would not submit any future cases to the board.

All CIO representatives have now resigned from the mediation board. Emil Rieve, national CIO vice-president, in resigning said, "There is no place for me in the board unless the board tells unions they have the right to fight out the union shop issue on the economic battlefield without being called unpatriotic."

Other CIO officials are resigning from posts as "labor relations consultants" on the staff of Sidney Hillman, co-director of the Office of Production Management. Among those to resign from such posts are John Owens, president of the Ohio district of the UMW, Van A. Bittner and Allan Haywood, also of the miners' union, etc.

The United Auto Workers Union has withdrawn its case in the Bell Aircraft dispute from the Mediation Board. The CIO has also withdrawn from the board its International Harvester dispute.

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Area Committee Yields to NDMB

CIO Industrial Unionism Is Needed By Over-The-Road Drivers Now

(Continued from page 1)
from the Mediation Board and with further assistance from Roosevelt's FBI against oppositionists inside the union he will be able to perpetuate his rotten regime.

Employers Licked Before

The belligerency evidenced by J. L. Keeshin, chairman of the employers' committee, is not new at all. The employers took the same attitude when the first area contract was negotiated in 1938 and again when the contract now expiring was signed in 1939. All but a few companies signed the 1938 contract without a fight. Those who did not were all brought to time, including the Omaha bosses who locked out their men in September, 1938 and fought the union until they were brought under the contract in February, 1939.

Before the second agreement was negotiated in 1939 there was the same bravado on the part of the employers as is now evidenced by Keeshin. But the committee they were dealing with then didn't scare so easily and all of the employers signed the contract without any fight at all.

Bosses Know Tobin

Keeshin now counts on the war program of the government and his connections in Washington (and they are many) to see him safely through. And, far from the least of his calculations, he knows the weakness of Tobin. Except for Tobin's cowardice, Keeshin could not hold the employers ranks solid against a determined union stand. Even as Keeshin was making his threats, an

anonymous employer was telling the reporters, "We don't want a strike."

Bosses in Weak Position

Those who are familiar with the over-the-road industry can readily understand this seeming contradiction. There are two main divisions in the industry: the fleet-operating companies which use their own equipment and the broker-operating companies which use hired equipment (more often making payments on) their own truck. There is a fierce and mercenary competition between those two groups as well as within each individual group. A very high degree of economic cannibalism exists within the industry which perpetuates a state of complete anarchy on all sides.

The drivers suffer heavily from this condition, but at the same time it helps mightily to prevent the employers from gaining up on the organized drivers, provided the drivers have competent leadership.

Even if the employers were lined up solidly against the organized drivers that does not at all mean that the drivers could not win a fight against them, despite Roosevelt. Three years of union organization have made great changes in the industry. The drivers have gone through rich experiences which taught them many valuable lessons. They understand the value of the union and its power when properly led and widely supported by the rank and file drivers.

Such a force is fully capable of meeting Roosevelt, Keeshin and Co. in a showdown fight. There is just one element missing today: a fighting leadership with a correct program.

Why Union Is Slipping

Since the last area contract was signed in 1939 the union area committee has undergone a profound internal change for the worse. The committee has been packed with paid agents working directly under Tobin's orders and who have no responsibility to or regard for the union membership.

The committee was origi-

nally composed of men elected to it by the local unions and who were loyal to the membership which elected them. Today the local unions not only have no voice in selecting the area committee, but are also denied the right to determine the policies of the committee. Everything is handled from above with direct orders from Tobin on all important questions, orders from which there is no medium for appeal.

The committee is now headed by such little men as T. T. Neal and Carl Keul, little men who have a big job to do with no other tools than a profound ignorance and a deep streak of personal opportunism.

This is the committee which has surrendered the over-the-road drivers' strike weapon and who are now packing their grips for a junket to Washington to appear like a flock of ambulance-chasing lawyers before the mediation board to beg a few minor concessions from the bosses. All this was done without giving the truck drivers any voice whatever in the decision. The drivers learned about it only from the daily papers.

Same Old Boss Talk
Announcing that all pertinent information had been sent to Roosevelt, Keeshin asserted that the union demands would "result in complete destruction of the industry." That statement has a familiar ring to it. Every driver heard the same story in 1938 and again when the second contract came up in 1939. And it is not original with Keeshin. Every boss lets out the same plaintive wail whenever a worker asks for more money in his pay envelope.

Prior to the first area contract conditions in the industry were indescribable. The pay was low, the hours were long and the conditions were very bad. The first union scales called for a 2 1/2 cent rate per mile and 75 cents per hour for pickups and deliveries. Not all of the larger companies were affected by these rates. They were rather a leveler which served to correct the worst wage situations and approach some degree of uniformity in the industry. These same rates continued dur-

ing the year 1939 under the second contract and were increased to 3 cents per mile and 80 cents per hour on November 1, 1939. In other words the employers were given two years to prepare for the 3 cent-80 cent rates and another year to prepare for the increases now asked by the drivers.

Only those employers who were the worst chiselers on the men have had to give any substantial increase up to the present time. The others, and this includes most of the large companies, have had ample time to readjust their operating methods so that they would be in a position to pay the drivers a living wage under present conditions. They are also enjoying a harvest of unusually good profits as a result of the war program but, as usual, they want to salt all of these swollen profits in their own jeans.

Tobin 'Demands' Weak

As a matter of fact, the demands presented by the Tobin committee are far from a complete presentation of the needs of the over-the-road drivers. There is no indication of any effort to further reduce the weekly hours. Although an improvement over past non-union conditions, the present 60 hour work week is absolutely unnecessary and requires reduction; especially must be reduced the "emergency clause" set up by the Interstate Commerce Commission to permit an excess of 60 hours per week under a number of conditions.

Further effort must be made to restrict sleeper-cab operation. The men on these trucks work unbelievably long hours for wholly disproportionate pay and suffer great physical hardship which ages them far beyond their years.

Enough progress has been made during the last three years on the question of establishing relay runs to prove the practicability of this method of operation. This program is one of the most important keys to the solution of the problems of long hours and sleeper cabs. Relay runs permit the over-the-road driver to work and live a little more like a normal human being.

The Denver-Chicago run is a good example of what a relay system can do for the

drivers. When the union insisted on relaying this run, the boss easily lined the men up against it. But after a few months' experience under the relay system the boss couldn't drive these same men back onto the old long-haul schedule. And that is only one example.

The employers will never push this program voluntarily. They are too short-sighted to visualize the logic of such an arrangement. It is the men on the trucks who must push this campaign through the union if it is to be carried out. And it is the duty of the area committee to give leadership in this fight.

Owner-Operator Problem

What about the individual owner-operators? They represent a heavy percentage of the drivers in the industry and they have serious problems. It is in the interest of the drivers of the fleet-operating companies to assist the individual owner-operators just as the owner-operators must stand behind the fleet drivers. But since 1940 the area committee has practically abandoned all consideration for owner-operators.

It is up to the union leadership to cooperate with these owner-drivers in mapping a program for them and then to line all the union membership up solidly behind this program and put it over. Unless this is done experience has shown that wage rates established for drivers are frequently circumvented by the chicanery of the operating companies: fake leasing of trucks to individuals, expansion of wild-cat operation, etc., etc.

Tobin Policy Fatal

The Tobin committee pays no heed to these important questions. It doesn't understand them, and even if it did, it is too feeble to do anything about finding a practical solution.

Tobin and his agents on the area committee are today nothing more than pawns of Roosevelt. They depend so heavily upon Roosevelt to support their crumbling dictatorship over the drivers that they dare not move in any direction without his consent.

FOLLOW THE TRIAL

Order your Special Three-Month Subscription to the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, for only fifty cents (50c).

SEE OUR ADVERTISEMENT PAGE FOUR

22 Tobin Agents Were the "Sedition" Trial Witnesses

Tobin Payrollers and Stooges Perjured Themselves to Help Their Master and His Friends of the FBI Railroad Local 544-CIO Leaders to Sixteen-Year Prison Terms

Agents of AFL Teamsters President Tobin furnished the overwhelming bulk of the prosecution "evidence" in the "sedition" trial against leaders of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party, study of the government case, now completed, reveals. For months, the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER has charged that Tobin and the FBI worked hand in hand to destroy 544-CIO. That contention has been proved to the hilt by the very testimony of the government witnesses.

Twenty-two Tobin payrollers and stooges were the witnesses the prosecution relied on to prove the government charge of "conspiracy to overthrow the government by force." We list them:

1. James Bartlett—leader of Tobin's Committee of 99 which has fought the Local 544-CIO leaders all this year. Bartlett is, of course, on Tobin's payroll, as an organizer. He was the main witness.
2. Eugene Williams—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
3. Glenn Smith—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as a goon.
4. George O'Brien—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
5. Roy Wienecke—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
6. Tom McCue—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
7. Eddie Blixt—on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
8. Sidney Brennan—leader of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as his appointee as secretary-treasurer of "544"-AFL.
9. Henry Harris—member of Committee of 99, body-guard for Tobin organizer Bartlett.
10. Mrs. V. Williams—widow of Tom Williams, Committee of 99 organizer.
11. Joe Williams—brother of Tom Williams, and member of Committee of 99.
12. Elmer Buckingham—member of Committee of 99.
13. Emmanuel Holstein—member of Committee of 99.
14. John Novack—member of Committee of 99, body-guard for Tom Williams, and Tobin goon-squad member.
15. John Majersky—member of Committee of 99.
16. Karl Bath—member of Committee of 99, friend of Tom Williams.
17. Walter Stultz—former president of Omaha Teamsters Local 554-AFL. He and his wife are admittedly on payroll of T. T. Neal, Tobin's receiver for Local 544-AFL.
18. John J. Kenney—member of Committee of 99, brother-in-law of Sidney Brennan.
19. William Henderscheid—member of Committee of 99.
20. Robert Bove—member of Committee of 99.
21. Helen Hanifan—Tobin receiver T. T. Neal's book-keeper in Local "544"-AFL.
22. Harriet Karlen—"544"-AFL stenographer.

of the 22 Tobin payrollers, goons and stool pigeons.

And their evidence? It consisted of snatches of conversation, alleged to have been held with the defendants in saloons, parked automobiles, etc.

These "conversations" almost all date back four or five years and, according to the witnesses, were never held before third parties.

Each Tobin agent invariably made the same charge: that one or more of the defendants managed to get the witness off in a corner and whisper to him that the Socialist Workers Party was preparing an "armed" revolution to overthrow the government.

Apart from the Tobin agents, the rest of the alleged conspiracy is the literature introduced into the record by the prosecution.

Some of this literature are scientific works to be found in almost any public library throughout the country. Among these is the 93-year-old Communist Manifesto of Karl Marx.

Others are Socialist Workers Party books, pamphlets and excerpts from articles written by defendants, all of it to be read in libraries or purchased in book-stores.

All have been on public sale at the SWP headquarters in the Twin Cities many years, and are still on sale there.

That's the case on which the government would convict 23 loyal labor men and women on counts providing up to sixteen-year prison terms!

Of the other witnesses, two were FBI agents and one was an employee of the anti-labor Associated Industries, the name under which the old Citizens' Alliance operates today.

That makes a total of 25 obviously prejudiced witnesses. They were all the government had in the way of a case.

Two Aided Defense

Of the remaining government witnesses, two—Thomas V. Smith and Malcolm Love, former officers of the Omaha Teamsters Local 544-AFL—turned the tables on the prosecution by giving testimony favorable to the defendants. They praised the work of Farrell Dobbs and the officers of Local 544 in organizing and improving the conditions of hundreds of thousands of over-the-road drivers. As former members of the Socialist Workers Party, they categorically denied the government contention that the party advocated the overthrow of the government by force.

The other nine prosecution witnesses were of no importance, testifying to minor details in the government case.

The bulk of the government case, then, rests on the testimony

Federal Mediator Helps AFL Terrorize Negro Workers

How a mediator of the National Defense Mediation Board aided AFL officials to institute a reign of terror and intimidation against 600 Negro track workers on the Florida East Coast Railroad was told recently by President Willard Townsend of the United Transport Service Employees Union in the union paper, BAGS & BAGGAGE.

As a result of the terror campaign, the AFL won the 12-day election over the UTSEA, 410-325. "This 90-vote majority of the AFL Brotherhood represented one of

the most open conspiracies to defeat the letter and the spirit of the Railway Labor Act in an effort to cram Jim-Crow unionism down the throats of Negro workers," union officials charge.

Union Observers Jailed

State law enforcements aided the AFL by imprisoning election observers sent by the United Transport Service Employees to watch the balloting. Police at Ormond, Florida, held both union election observers without charge.

One of the jailed UTSEA election observers, in an affidavit, testified that "The officer told me that he had no charges, but that he had received a telegram from Jacksonville the day before, telling them the hour that they were to pick us up and hold us. He said that he was just holding us because he could. After showing him my credentials, he told me that I had no business following behind the Mediator and the AFL. Brotherhood's observers because they knew what they were doing. He said he would hold us until he got ready to turn us loose. Federal Mediator Noonan and the Brotherhood observers continued on after our arrest and took the votes at the Daytona and Ormond sections. We did not see them until Thursday morning at New Smyrna Beach. (Mediation Board instructions are that elections should be conducted in the presence of observers from all parties concerned.) Mediator Looked Other Way

"At New Smyrna Beach, Federal Mediator Noonan claimed that he did not see the arrest. He also claimed that he was not responsible for anything that might happen to the UTSEA observers. He claimed that he would continue on with the election if the observers were not present. He also stated that the track laborers were getting along all right until the UTSEA started organizing them. The police at Ormond held us up long enough for the Mediator to take the votes at Ormond and Daytona sections."

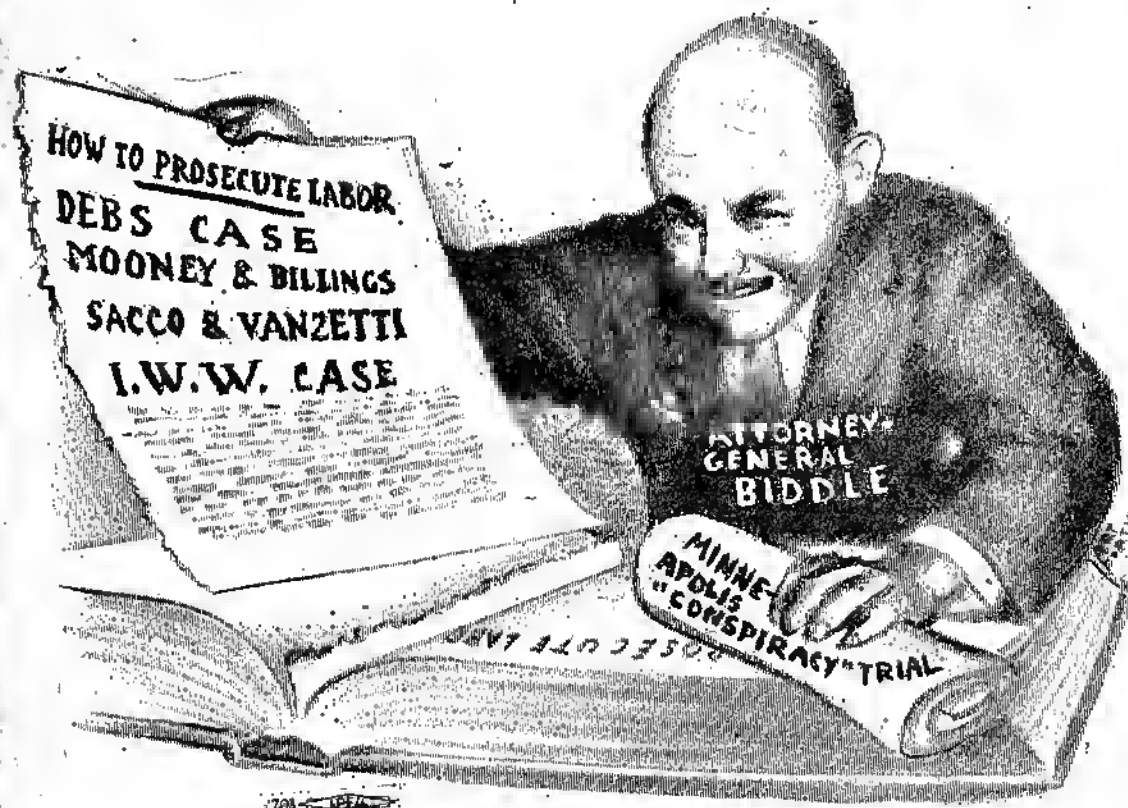
SO SAY OUR PERLESS LEADERS

In these days of dictators, we should use the iron fist to teach patriotism. Children should be taught to respect the flag, with whippings, if necessary.—CHES-TER CANNON, member of the California State Assembly, April, 1939.

ON CAPITALISM

The silent colossal National lie that is the support and confederate of all the tyrannies and inequalities and unfairnesses that afflict the peoples—that is the one to throw bricks and sermons at.—MARK TWAIN.

A Page From Anti-Labor History



NLRB To Hear 544-CIO Claims At Watermans

The regional office of the National Labor Relations Board will hold a public hearing November 26th at 10 a. m. to determine the collective bargaining agency for sixty workers at the Minneapolis plant of the Waterman-Waterbury company.

The men are solidly organized in Local 544-CIO and the CIO Machinists Union Local 1140, which conducted a successful joint organizing campaign at the plant last summer. Contesting the right of 544-CIO and Local 1140-CIO to represent the men will be the Tobinized "544"-AFL and Tobin's warehouse union.

In September the national labor board followed Stassen's labor conciliator, Blair, in denying democratic elections to the Minneapolis drivers. By accepting Local 544-CIO's petition at Waterman-Waterbury, the board has taken a step towards recognizing the democratic rights of the Waterman men to select their own union bargaining agent.

Jim Cannon Punctures FBI Tale About Labor Violence

First Defense Witness, Explaining 100-Year-Old Doctrine of Workers and Farmers Government, Shows That Violence Is Bosses' Weapon Against All Sections of Labor

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, and leading defendant in the "sedition" trial of leaders of Local 544-CIO and the SWP, had been on the witness stand for a day and a half by Wednesday evening. His testimony is a complete refutation of the prosecution charge that the defendants plotted an armed revolution to overthrow the government.

Just as unions are always accused of violence, so the bosses have always charged that the socialists planned to use violence to attain their goal of a Workers' and Farmers' Government. But every worker in the court room knew better when Jim Cannon spoke out.

The dignified 51-year-old leader, veteran of thirty years in the workers' movement, gave the definitive answer to these boss slanders, repeated in this trial by the Tobin goons and stool-pigeons.

Cannon pointed out during direct examination that, just as with most important strikes, so too revolutions are usually accompanied by violence. But as every worker who has been in a strike knows, such violence is instigated solely by the bosses to prevent the workers from exercising their democratic rights.

Asked by defense attorney Goldman who initiates such violence, Cannon answered:

"Always the ruling class; always the out-lived class that doesn't want to leave the stage when the time has come. They want to hang onto their privileges, to reinforce them by violent measures against the rising majority."

Cites the Civil War

Cannon gave examples from American history to prove his contention. In 1861, the reactionary Southern slave-holding class, refusing to abide by majority vote, revolted against the election of Abraham Lincoln. Thus the military, the slave-holders, initiated the violence of the Civil War rather than submit to the decisions of the great majority of the people.

Cannon explained that the Socialist Workers Party would prefer to establish socialism through a peaceful transformation of society. He warned, however, that the boss class would take measures to destroy the workers' movement whenever it became a threat to the bosses' "right" to exploit and enslave the workers.

When asked to specify these anti-labor measures, he referred to discriminating legislation against labor, abrogation of elections, and most important of all, the organization of fascist gangs.

Lessons of Europe

The role of the German and the Italian capitalists, in financing the fascist movements of Hitler and Mussolini to break up workers' meetings, destroy the union halls and murder the workers' leaders, was described by Cannon.

Prosecutor Schweinhaut did not dare to challenge these incontestable historical facts.

Cannon predicted the American bosses would use fascist thugs against the workers, and said the SWP calls on the workers to be prepared to defend themselves.

"We advise the workers to bear in mind this use of violence by the bosses and prepare themselves, not to permit the reactionary out-lived minority to frustrate the will of the majority."

Cannon defined socialism as a "society that would be based on the common ownership of the means of production, the abolition of the wage system, the abolition of class divisions in society."

Tobin Lies Nailed

The 22 Tobin payrollers and stooges who testified for the government had pictured the defendants as mysterious plotters, conspiring in dark corners to perfect the details of their alleged plan to overthrow the government.

Cannon punctured this comic-opera scenario. Marxian Socialists, he explained, have been legally established as political parties for nearly 100 years. They have always tried to win a majority of the people to their beliefs, as a precondition for the establishment of a Workers' and Farmers' Government.

Truth About Russia

Again the historical truth was brought out to support this contention. Cannon told how the Bolshevik Party of Lenin and Trotsky refused to try to take state power in Russia in 1917 until they had won the support of the people. Prosecutor Schweinhaut once again sat silent as the witness told of the repressions by the capitalist government against the workers' leaders in Russia when the Bolsheviks began to win the masses. Lenin was forced to go into hiding and Trotsky was jailed by the capitalist government in a frameup.

Only in November, 1917, after the Bolsheviks had won decisive majorities in the official organs of the people, the Workers and Soldiers Soviets, and the Peasant Soviets, did they take state power.

Far from hiding its ideas, Cannon explained, the Socialist Workers Party in the United States uses every possible means to publicize its views. Cannon testified that the SWP participated in elections wherever possible and cited a number of cities in which the SWP recently ran candidates for public office. The party publishes a weekly paper, a monthly magazine and has published and distributed dozens of pamphlets.

As defense attorney Goldman said, "A very peculiar kind of conspiracy, indeed!"

THEN AS NOW

Successful crime is dignified by the name of virtue; the good become the slaves of the impious; night makes right; fear silences the power of the law.—SENECA.

ADD BOSSES

Nations themselves have never desired war. The statesmen at the head of governments have always been responsible for bringing about bloody conflicts.—Dr. Karl Von Lewinski.

Friends of Defendants Rally to Help Them

Every day workers come to the commissary at 919 Marquette where the defendants are being fed under the auspices of the Civil Rights Defense Committee armed with food and money they want to donate.

The entire Thanksgiving spread which was served yesterday was donated by willing friends and sympathizers. A florist even donated flowers to make the festive table more decorative.

Last Wednesday a worker, a driver at one of the largest department stores, came in with three pounds of coffee. "In about an hour he was back, saying 'The boys in the garage want to give something too, and want to know what you need most.'"

With such support, coming from people whom we know can't afford much in these days of high taxes and rising prices, the defendants feel that they can't help but win their fight eventually.

ON THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

As good as to kill a man as kill a good book; who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were, in the eye.—John Milton, Areopagitica.

CONVOYS OR PATROLS

The chief business of statesmen is to find new names for old institutions, which, under their old names, have become odious to the public.—Talleyrand.

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YOU Can Help The Defendants

The twenty-eight men and women who are on trial in the federal courtroom in Minneapolis are front-line fighters in the cause of union rights and civil liberties of this nation.

They merit the whole-hearted and generous moral and material support of every progressive organization and individual genuinely concerned with maintaining our democratic and constitutional rights.

Their fight against the prosecution must be won. That is why the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE has been organized. Chairman of the Committee is James T. Farrell. Vice chairman is John Dos Passos. Secretary is George Novack. Scores of outstanding laborites, educators, civil liberty defenders, liberals have joined the national board of the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

The government prosecution has been denounced by the CIO, Labor's Non-Partisan League, the United Auto Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union, THE NATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC, etc.

The CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE needs \$7,500 immediately to defray the heavy costs of fighting this case. Aid the 28 defendants by contributing promptly and generously to their Defense Fund. Mail all donations to the

Civil Rights Defense Committee
c-o Industrial Organizer, 1328 Second St. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

A receipt will be mailed you from the Industrial Organizer and from the national office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee.

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Traitor Hillman Attacks The Striking Miners

Mr. Sidney Hillman is still general president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, one of the unions which founded the CIO. Despite his office in the union movement, Hillman also occupies the post of co-director of the Office of Production Management, a post for which his devotion to Roosevelt and the administration's pro-war policies qualified him. No man can serve two masters. As OPM co-director, Hillman is a captive of the government, using his union prestige to serve the anti-labor program of the government.

For months, large sections of the CIO, disturbed and angry at the spectacle of Sidney Hillman acting as a cop for the government, have demanded Hillman resign his governmental post and get over on labor's side of the fence. This Hillman has refused to do.

In recent weeks he has become increasingly bold in his treachery to labor. Last week he ordered labor to cease strikes. (Imagine either Hillman or his boss, Roosevelt, ordering the employers to cease denying labor its justifiable demands.)

Hillman's treachery to labor's cause has reached a new peak in the captive mine strike.

In an unsigned article in the November 15th issue of the ADVANCE, bi-monthly organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the striking miners and their leader, John L. Lewis, are foully attacked.

After giving lip service to the labor movement ("We of the labor movement have no fault to find with the miners wishing to establish the union shop"), the article launches into a vicious attack upon the United Mine Workers and a defense of the Steel Trust and Roosevelt's strike-breaking policies.

The Hillmanite article, after a devious and dishonest argument that carefully skirts the fundamental issue at stake—THE VERY RIGHT OF LABOR TO STRIKE—asks: "What need is there in such circumstances for an interruption of work that cannot proceed in an environment of public understanding?"

Fancy a labor paper daring to question the right of a group of workers to exercise their economic power against the profiteering Steel Trust, to strike in behalf of the union shop and the defense of labor's chief weapon!

Instead of condemning Roosevelt for fronting for the Steel Trust against the miners, Hillman's paper defends the president, says "He wants uninterrupted production in a way that will in no wise violate any essential or material rights or advantages due to labor."

What an impossible formula! In the captive mine situation, there are only two sides—labor's side and capital's side. Labor's interests demand that the miners strike be won. Capital's interests demand that there be "uninterrupted production," that is, that labor give up its right to strike and that the mine workers forfeit the union shop in the captive mines and thus pave the way for the advance of the Open Shop throughout American industry.

There is no third position in this crucial issue. You are either for the miners and their union, or you are for J. P. Morgan's Steel Trust. Hillman and Roosevelt are for Morgan.

Hillman's article says "This conflict involves the very continuity and security of the labor movement. . . . We must be clear about all this."

Hillman is clear, all right. He makes it clear that he is a traitor to labor. Every worker worth his salt, AFL or CIO or unorganized, will take his stand with the United Mine Workers in this crucial conflict.

Lawyer Joseph Padway Lies for His Client

Dictator Dan Tobin put another lie into circulation through the November issue of his personal organ, the official magazine of the AFL Teamsters. Tobin used his lawyer, Joseph Padway, to circulate the lie.

Under the title, "The Minnesota Labor Board Exposes Dunnes," Padway, general counsel for Tobin, writes that "The (Blair) decision is significant because all the divisions of the Teamster craft in the entire Minneapolis area have selected International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 544 as their bargaining agent."

But this is exactly what the Minneapolis drivers DID NOT DO. They DID NOT SELECT the AFL as their bargaining agent. Governor Stassen and his crooked labor conciliator, Blair, under prompting from Tobin and the bosses, REFUSED TO PERMIT THE MINNEAPOLIS DRIVERS TO EXPRESS THEIR DEMOCRATIC WILL THROUGH AN ELECTION. Instead, Blair certified the Tobin setup WITHOUT an election.

The Tobin outfit was NEVER chosen as bargaining agent for the Minneapolis drivers. On the contrary, the drivers demonstrated in a hundred ways, every day, that they wanted Local 544-CIO as their bargaining agent, that they have nothing but bitter contempt for Tobin's gangster outfit, that they will never be reconciled to being represented by a group of hop-heads and thugs forced upon them by Dictator Tobin, Stassen and the bosses.

The only "proof" that Tobin ever presented at the Blair hearing to support the lying claim that the drivers wanted the AFL was to lug in a number of ledgers on whose pages the Tobin hopheads had copied the names of the Minneapolis drivers, and the record of some dues collected at the barrel of a revolver and the point of a knife.

When lawyer Padway claims the Minneapolis

Negro Sues Stassen Miner's For Race Prejudice Strike Holds

Demands Halt of Governor's Barring Negroes From State Home Guard Body

Governor Harold Stassen last Saturday received a new protest against his reactionary regime, when Lee Turpin, 30-year-old Negro worker, filed suit in federal court to enjoin Stassen as commander of the state home guard from discriminating against Negroes. Turpin's suit climaxes the year-old struggle of the Minnesota Negro Defense Committee to force the

Minnesota governor to cease his Jim Crow policies in the home guard.

Is Third Suit Facing Stassen

Turpin's suit represents the third legal challenge now pending against the Stassen regime.

The suit of Local 544-CIO to reverse the Stassen-Blair decision denying democratic elections to the Minneapolis drivers will be heard Saturday, November 29th, before Judge Loevinger in Ramsey County district court.

The state supreme court will shortly review the actions of the Stassen-dominated state board of education in ousting Dr. John Rockwell, liberal educator, from the office of state commissioner of education. This legal action on behalf of Rockwell is being backed by the American Federation of Teachers.

Governor Opposes Negro Rights

Back in December, 1940, when it became apparent that Governor Stassen was going to uphold the reactionary custom of the U. S. Army in denying Negroes admission to the home guard, a group of prominent Negroes established the Minnesota Negro Defense Committee, to fight for racial equality in the armed forces and in industry.

For months the committee sought an audience with Stassen; for months the governor refused to meet the committee. It took the threat of a march on the capitol to induce the governor, grudgingly, to move. He appointed a hand-picked committee to "study the matter." Later, the governor informed the Minnesota Negro De-

fense Committee he was unable to accept Negro applicants into the home guard because "it would be a violation of the U. S. Army's military code." The committee told the governor the "code" was not a law but only a reactionary custom, and demanded that he issue an order as commander-in-chief of the state guards that Negroes be enlisted just as other citizens. This Stassen has stubbornly refused to do.

"No Place for Negroes"

Col. F. G. Stultz, executive officer of the home guard, has told a committee of Negro leaders that "There is no place in the Minnesota Home Defense for members of the Negro race." Stultz unquestionably voiced Stassen's views.

Lee Turpin, who has filed suit to force Stassen to cease his policies of racial discrimination, is a clean-cut, popular and militant Negro, educated at Creighton high school and the University of Minnesota.

His attorneys include Thurgood Marshall, attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; R. A. Skinner, president of the Minneapolis branch of the NAACP; and Jonas Schwartz. Stassen must answer the suit by December 5th.

Catching Up With Stassen

Slowly but surely, Stassen's foul crimes against labor, against liberal education, and against the Negro people, are coming home to roost. The three law suits confronting the Stassen regime are a reflection of the fast-spreading mass resentment against the foully reactionary regime of the war-monger in the Minnesota state capitol.

(Continued from page 1)
tain their attitude while the government broke any projected strike of the mine workers and established nationwide the principle of the Open Shop in industrial relations in America," Lewis told the Policy Committee in reporting on the breakdown of negotiations.

"The steel executives obviously believed that the military establishment of the United States was to be placed behind them in their attitude of resisting collective bargaining contracts, based upon a union shop relationship.

Bosses Plan With Army

"Mr. Fairless of U. S. Steel revealed in the conference that a week ago last Saturday night, at midnight, two days before the Mediation Board had rendered its decision, that he was awakened from his sleep to receive a demand from the military organization of the government for maps of the steel corporation's mining properties and other data having to do with possible military strategy in the mining communities of this nation.

"Mr. Purnell, president of Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, stated that he had received the same request under the same circumstances on the same date as affecting his company. It was, therefore, a natural assumption upon their part that President Roosevelt's statement could be construed by them as the government's intention to break any possible strike in a manner most advantageous to the steel companies.

"During the sessions Mr. Fairless and his associates made it clear that they believed that the Army would march into the mining communities equipped with all their paraphernalia of war and undertake methodically and with systematic military strategy, through the utilization of artillery and machine guns, terrifying, in-

timidating and breaking the morale of the mine workers, to crush the strike, with accompanying bloodshed. . . . All this because these great steel companies, now making tremendous profits as a result of their government contracts for munitions of war, were so arrogant in their attitude that they refused to accept the same agreement that had been accepted by 10,000 other coal companies in America. . . ."

Roosevelt's Strategy Clear

Tuesday President Roosevelt continued his intervention on behalf of the Steel Trust by telling the miners they must not only call off the strike, but must submit to the Open Shop "for the duration of the national emergency," that is, for an indefinite period of years.

Actually, Roosevelt hardly dares send troops against the strike while the CIO convention is still in session. It is obvious that any such threat would find the workers in the nation's basic industries in action immediately in sympathy with the miners.

For the same reason, Roosevelt's spokesman in the House of Representatives, Speaker Rayburn, is waiting until the CIO convention adjourns and until the coal mine strike is settled, before unleashing the administration's flood of strike-breaking and union-smashing bills. Monday Rayburn grimly promised his poll-tax colleagues in the House that anti-labor legislation would be considered "at the earliest opportunity," that is, as soon as the tense mine strike is over and the powerful CIO is no longer in session in Detroit, prepared to act immediately in defense of labor's rights.

Roosevelt Acts for Bosses

On the basis of his record in the captive mine strike, President Roosevelt appears as a political strike-breaker who has misinterpreted the miners' dispute to the nation, and has used his office to try to deny to the miners their fundamental right to strike.

All of Roosevelt's intervention has been on behalf of the Steel Trust, and AGAINST the workers.

It is untrue, as Roosevelt and the boss-minded newspaper columnists seek to imply, that the miners insisted the National Defense Mediation Board grant them a union shop.

What the miners seek, and are defending, is their right to use their own economic

544-CIO WIRES SUPPORT TO LEWIS RESOLUTION AGAINST TRAITOR HILLMAN

As the powerful CIO began its national convention Monday in Detroit, Local 544-CIO wired Chairman A. D. Lewis of the United Construction Workers that his resolution against the anti-labor policies of Sidney Hillman has the "whole-hearted support and endorsement" of Local 544.

The text of 544-CIO's wire to A. D. Lewis follows:
"YOUR RESOLUTION AGAINST HILLMAN AND HIS ANTI-LABOR POSITION HAS OUR WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT AND ENDORSEMENT. FIFTEEN OF OUR BROTHERS ARE NOW STANDING TRIAL IN FEDERAL COURT HERE BECAUSE TOBIN, WHO SUPPORTS HILLMAN'S POLICIES, RECEIVES SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME MEASURE OF SUPPORT FROM ROOSEVELT THAT THE STEEL BOSSES ARE NOW RECEIVING FROM THE ADMINISTRATION IN THEIR ATTACK UPON THE MINERS' UNION. BEST WISHES FOR COMPLETE VICTORY IN YOUR FIGHT TO PRESERVE TRADE-UNION RIGHTS.

(Signed)

Kelly Postal, Sec. Treas.
Motor Transport & Allied Workers
Industrial Union Local 544-CIO

power to wrest the union shop from the Steel Trust. This is exactly what Roosevelt is trying to deny them. The President, while telling the workers that "The government will not order, nor will Congress pass legislation ordering a so-called closed shop," also told the miners that they dare not use their own economic power to fight for their demand. Roosevelt, through the labor mediation board, refused the miners their demand, and then he seeks to deny them the right to strike for their demand.

The CIO is 100 per cent right in taking its stand with the miners and bracing its feet against Roosevelt on this issue. If the Steel Trust wins this fight, the future of organized labor won't be worth a plugged nickel. A union that is denied its right to strike, and thus to protect the interests of its members, is useless to labor.

Negroes Play Major Role in Mine Strike

A large proportion of the striking "captive" miners are Negroes, the PITTSBURGH COURIER for November

Penn Drivers Get Charter From CIO

UNIONTOWN, PA. — Dump truckers had an opportunity to see their new CIO charter at the meeting held last Tuesday night. Michael Honus, United Mine Workers international representative, brought greetings from the district office of the UMW, giving assurance of the full support of the district to the truckers in their effort to build a strong CIO union.

President Franz told the CIO Reporter that "The United Mine Workers are in back of us 100 percent and are giving us the financial aid to carry on our organization drive. Since the UMW is with us, there is no reason why any of the truck drivers who work around the mines should remain outside the union."

Gerald Fagan, representative of the CIO regional office at Pittsburgh, installed a new CIO charter for gasoline station attendants of Uniontown a few days ago.

15th states in calling attention to the racial angle of the dispute between the miners and the Steel Trust.

"In the Birmingham area, dominated by the powerful U. S. Steel Corporation, Negroes constitute over-half the miners. Moreover nearly 25 out of every 100 miners in Kentucky and West Virginia are Negro and practically all of these men are organized and provide a large percentage of John L. Lewis' leaders in local areas like Birmingham," the COURIER reports.

FLASHES from the Courtroom

Highlights in the Minneapolis "Sedition" Trial

After District Attorney had read an article on war, from the 1939 Socialist Appeal, to the jury, Defense Attorney Albert Goldman called the court's attention to a little fact mentioned by Anderson—that the article in question had been written by V. I. Lenin, 26 years ago.

Eugene Williams, brother of Tom, leader of the Tobin "Committee of 99," testified he had purchased a pamphlet at 919 Marquette. Sure, it was the "Communist Manifesto," the 93-year-old world labor classic which the government seems determined to outlaw.

Williams, like so many other Tobin stooge-pigeons, admitted talking to the FBI early last spring; he also admitted he had never worked for the union prior to the time Tobin's receiver, Raw Deal Neal, appointed him as organizer. On cross-examination, Williams said "The defendants walked out of their jobs in 544."

That's the Tobin description of the June 9th membership meeting which voted overwhelmingly to leave the AFL and join the CIO, and ordered its officers to take all necessary steps to affect the transfer.

Tobin agent Elmer Buckingham testified the second time he talked to an FBI agent was at a "Committee of 99" meeting at Tom Williams' house, where the agent was present. He signed one affidavit for the FBI and one for Tobin, Buckingham testified.

The Tobin stooge-pigeon, Ed die Blixt, said Tobin's receiver appointed him organizer two days after the general membership had voted to go CIO. He admitted he had a controversy with V. R. Dunne and Local 544's board, starting in March, 1940, regarding his peculiar practice of charging out-of-town truckers enormous fees to unload at the market.

drivers "selected" Tobinism to represent them, he is slandering the drivers and he is lying. He is lying at the orders of his master who has made a profession of lying to the American workers in the interests of the employing class.

The Minneapolis drivers have not yet had the democratic election to which they are entitled. One of the steps to secure that election will materialize November 29th when Local 544-CIO goes into district court to demand the setting aside of the Blair decision. The Minneapolis drivers will in the end speak the last word to Tobin, Stassen, and the bosses.

The Mr. Shurick, radio consultant who identified manuscripts of two radio talks delivered by Dr. Grace Carlson, is remembered by the Minneapolis union movement for his strike-breaking efforts on behalf of WLOL when that station was being struck by the Electrical Workers Union.

At one point Monday morning, District Attorney Anderson blurted out: "I don't know Karl Marx from the editor of the Fourth International."

One difference is that Marx shaved less often than Felix Morrow.

During the argument on the various defense motions Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, the jury was excused.

Two of the defendants who have been most critical of others coming late to the courtroom, themselves just got under the wire Tuesday morning. They were greeted with pointed coughs from their fellow defendants.

Every day members of the families of various defendants are in the courtroom. One of the regular visitors is a former high school teacher now studying law. Another regular patron is a prominent Minneapolis clubwoman who seems absorbed in the trial. Wednesday she observed to a neighbor that she was going to invite one of the defendants to address her club. "It's high time those women found out about life and what the future holds for America," she said.

With the first five of the 28 defendants acquitted, one of the three rows of chairs seating the defendants has now been removed from the courtroom. Serious and quiet, the defendants are absorbed in the proceedings, especially as defense witnesses take the stand.

Coatracks have now been provided in the courtroom for the

outer wraps of the defendants.

The jury during the fine weather of last week took long group walks through the loop before coming to the courtroom. During the trial, jurors are rigidly confined, much more so than the defendants.

At one point during the earlier testimony of James Cannon, first defense witness, he almost broke out into a speech in the courtroom. This occurred when the witness, with deep feeling, was discussing the inhuman results of the horrible Versailles Treaty on the German people, at the end of the First World War, which paved the way for World War II.

Only woman left among the defendants, with Rose Seiler and Dorothy Schultz now freed, is Grace Carlson. Twenty-two men and one woman now sit across from the jurors.

With contributions of food and money continuing to flow into the defense commissary, the cuisine for the defendants remains excellent. On Thanksgiving it was positively elegant, what with the turkeys and other holiday delicacies donated by friendly farmers, merchants and cafe owners.

War Profits Rise Another 25 Percent

The combined net profits of the manufacturing industries of the United States show an increase of 25 per cent for the first half of 1941 over the same period last year, the N. Y. Times financial section reported October 12th.

"A compilation of 458 principal enterprises, representing virtually every field of manufacture, shows combined profits of \$902,083,978 for the first six months of this year. This compared with \$719,550,677 earned in the first half of 1940, a gain of more than 25 per cent."

War Profits Swell
The true extent of the golden war profits flowing into the coffers of the owners of industry is shown when one discovers that profits for the year 1940 were themselves 25 per cent above profits in 1939.

All Roosevelt's fake talk about "preventing a new crop of war millionaires" has been just talk, the longer the war continues, the higher are the profits of those who own the means of production.

On Thanksgiving motion pictures were taken of the defendants and their families and friends, dining at the commissary. The pictures will shortly be toured around the country, by the Civil Rights Defense Committee.

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SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER, THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF LOCAL 544-CIO. Get the defendants' own stories about the "sedition" trial, week by week. Read the facts, so that you can discuss the case intelligently with your friends and fellow workers.

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